received from domestic industry with prima-facie evidence of dumping, injury and causal link from 1st April., 1998 to 31st March, 2000.

(c) and (d) The Directorate General of Anti-Dumping & Allied Duties is equipped to deal with all the cases of dumping of commodities causing injury to domestic industry. The Directorate General of Anti-Dumping and Allied Duties will be suitably strengthened as and if required to cope with increasing number of cases.

Hike in Customs and Import Duties on Agricultural Items

2972. SHRI V.V.RAGHAVAN:

SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have raised basic customs duty or import duty on a number of agricultural items to safeguard interests of the agricultural sector in the post QR era; and

(b) if so, the list of these items and the details of the hike in the duty of each of these items?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) and (b) Based on the representations received and the need for providing protection to domestic producers, import duty on some agricultural commodities has been raised recently. In the Budget proposals for the year 2000-2001, the basic custom duty on most of the agricultural products was raised to the peak rate of 35%. During this financial year customs duty on some agricultural products for example milk powder, poultey products, apples, edible oils, arecanut, spelt, millet, maize, jower etc. has been raise even beyond the peak rate of the duty. The details are furnished in the table given below:

BASIC CUSTOMS DUTY ON CERTAIN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS RAISED SUBSEQUENT TO BUDGET - 2000-2001

SI.	Description of goods	Basic duty of customs (before increase)	Basic duty of customs (after increase)
1.	Edible grade crude vegetable oils (excluding coconut oil, palm oil and its fractions whether refined or not) imported in loose or bbulk form manufacture of vanaspati or for refining	15%	25%

SI. No.	Description of goods	Basic duty of customs (before increase)	Basic duty of customs (after increase)
2.	Olive oil other than virgin whether or not refined	35%	40%
3.	Refined vegetable oils (other than coconut oil, RBD palm oil, RBD palm kernel oil and palm stearin) of edible grade in loose or bulk form	25%	35%
4.	All other edible oils whether refined or not (including coconut oil and refined palm oil)	35%	45%
5.	Milk powder	0%	60%
6.	Poultry meat and chicken legs	35%	100%
7.	Spelt	0%	50%
8.	Rice in the husk and husked Brown rice	0%	80%
9.	Semi milled or wholly milled rice whether or not polished	0.%	70%
10.	Millet, Jower, Sorghum, Maize	0%	50%
11.	Areca nuts	35%	100%
12.	Apples	35%	50%
13.	Tea	15%	35%
14.	Coffee	15%	35%
15.	Preparations for infant use, put up for retail sale	15%	35%

Protecting traditional system and biodiverse materials

2973. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any attempt has been made to protect traditional system and biodiverse materials especially in the field of medicine;

(b) whether it is a fact that on the issue of intellectual property rights fresh